● PRINTER RUSH ●
(PTO ASSISTANCE)

Application : **10617203**   Examiner : **Iqbal**   GAU : **2114**

From: **J. Black**   Location: (**IDC**) FMF FDC   Date: **12/8/05**

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[RUSH] MESSAGE: _____

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REV 10/04

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR CREATING A STORAGE POOL BY DYNAMICALLY MAPPING REPLICATION SCHEMA TO PROVISIONED STORAGE VOLUMES

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

[0001]   This application is related by common inventorship and subject matter to co-filed and co-pending applications titled "Method and Apparatus for Determining Replication Schema Against Logical Data Disruptions", "Methods and Apparatus for Building a Complete Data Protection Scheme", "Method and Apparatus for Protecting Data Against any Category of Disruptions" and "Method and Apparatus for Creating a Storage Pool by Dynamically Mapping Replication Schema to Provisioned Storage Volumes", filed ~~June~~ July 8, 2003. Each of the aforementioned applications is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.

TECHNICAL FIELD OF THE INVENTION

[0002]   The present invention relates to a method and apparatus for creating a storage pool in an open, heterogeneous computing environment, and more particularly, a method for providing a data storage environment with increased data availability and reliability.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

[0003]   The expansion of storage area networks (SANs), growth of companies, and increased data production from business processes and procedures have become prime contributors to growth in factors that cause data loss. These common risk factors include hardware failures, human errors, software malfunctions, viruses, and natural disasters.

[0004]   While traditional server backup solutions range from tape-based backup to mirroring, online network backup has emerged as the most efficient form of data protection.